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## 31/12/2007 - Italy – Educating with the heart of Don Bosco



**(ANS – Rome)** – Fr Pascual Chávez, Rector Major of the Salesians, presented the Strenna for 2008 officially this afternoon: “Let us educate with the heart of Don Bosco, for the integrated development of the life of the young, especially the poorest and most disadvantaged, promoting their rights”.

The event, which took place as usual in the theatre at the General House of the Salesian Sisters in Rome, continues the tradition that Don Bosco himself set in motion in 1849 when he began offering his young people an idea to stimulate their progress in the coming year. In the years that followed the Strenna was addressed to the Salesian Sisters and, at a later date, the entire Salesian Family.

Mother Antonia Colombo, Superior General of the FMA, was present, along with members of the General Council, Sisters from the House, many other Sisters representing FMA work in Rome and Lazio. Some Salesians were also present.

The Strenna for 2008 completes the programme which Fr Pascual Chávez, 9th successor of Don Bosco, has indicated for the Salesian Family over the past three years: life, God`s great gift entrusted to us, is like a seed which needs to “fall on fertile ground” – the family – and demands the patient hard work of the farmer to irrigate, look after, and help it grow: the educator.

The Strenna for 2008 will be studied and reflected on during the 16th recurrence of the Salesian Family Spirituality Days which will take place from 17 to 20 January at the Salesianum in Rome. More than 300 representatives of the various groups making up the Salesian Family are expected to attend.

It is possible to understand in depth the Strenna theme by reading the [commentary](#) of the Rector Major; a summary presentation is contained in the [video](#).

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